जैसे विभिन्न एजेंसी कार्य करके डाकघरों का अधिकतम लाभ उठाने की नीति का भी अनुपालन कर रहा है।

डाक सेवा को आधुनिक बनाने की विभाग की नीति में काउंटर सेवाओं पर बल दिया गया है तथा वित्तीय सेवाएं, डाक जीवन बीमा, इन्वेंटरी कंट्रोल तथा सपीड पोस्ट जैसे कार्यकलापों के अन्य क्षेत्रों में कम्प्यूटरों की शुरूआत भी की जा रही है। गहन प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों का उद्देश्यों कर्मचारियों की कार्यकुशलता को बढ़ाना है। विभाग सेवा के स्तर में सुधार करने तथा राजस्व जुटाने के उद्देश्य से व्यापारिक तथा वाणिज्यिक सेक्टर की जरूरतों और साथ ही यूनिवर्सल सर्विस के दायित्व को पूरा करने के प्रयोजन से अपने कार्य क्षेत्रों का विभाजन करना चाहता है।

Post Offices, Telegraph Offices and Speed Post Offices in Vasant Kunj in Delhi

23. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices, Telegraph Post Offices and Speed Post Offices serving the Thickly populated areas in Vasant Kunj and the area covered by each such Offices in Vasant Kunj;

(b) whether there is any demand for more such facilities under Government consideration;

(c) if so, the details thereof and what action Government propose to reduce the hardships to the people; and

(d) whether Government propose to consider opening of Post Offices for every sector in the Vasant Kunj and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The number of post offices serving Vasant Kunj area of Delhi is 3. The area covered by each is as follows:

(1) Vasant Kunj Sector 'D' Sub Office: 4 Sq. Km. approximately.

(2) Vasant Kunj Sector 'A' Sub Office: 3 Sq. Km. approximately.

(3) Masoodpur Extra Departmental Branch Post Office: 2 Sq. Km. approximately.

There is no Speed Post Office or Telegraph Post Office (combined Office) in Vasant Kunj.

The Speed Post Booking Centres in the neighbouring area are:

Vasant Lok 1.5 km. from Vasant Kunj
Vasant vihar 2.5 km. from Vasant Kunj.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is a demand from Shri Surajbhan Patil Vahadane, Member of Parliament on behalf of residents of B-3 and B-4, Vasant Kunj to open a post office at B-3 Vasant Kunj and other Sector of Vasant Kunj. Post Offices are opened subject to norm based justification and availability of resources.

(d) No sir.

Speed Post Services in Tamil Nadu

24. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of district headquarters in Tamil Nadu where Speed Post Services are available as on date; and

(b) the actions taken by Government to provide Speed Post Services in the remaining district headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The names of the District Head Quarters in Tamil Nadu where Speed Post Service is available as on date are:—

1. Chennai
2. Dharmapuri
3. Coimbatore
4. Cuddalore
5. Dindigul
6. Erode
7. Kanchipuram
8. Karur
9. Madurai
10. Nagapattinam

11. Nagercoil
12. Pudukottai
13. Ramanathapuram
14. Salem
15. Sivaganga
16. Thanjavur
17. Theni
18. Tiruchy
19. Tirunelveli
20. Tiruvannamalai
21. Tuticorin
22. Vellore
23. Villupuram
24. Virudhunagar

Speed Post booking facilities are also available in the following District Headquarters 1. Tiruvarur, 2. Namakkal, 3. Perambalur, 4. Udagamandalam.

(b) The only District Headquarters without Speed Post Service is Tiruvellore. This District came into existence very recently. Speed Post Service is extended to the places/District Headquarters if it is economically viable and operationally feasible.

Phone on Demand

25. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'phone on demand to remain a dream' appearing in the "Indian Express" dated January 10, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Telecom. Policy 1994 envisages provision of telephone connections on demand by 1997 with Private Sector supplementing the efforts of Department of Telecommunications. However, there has been a delay in the entry of the Private Sector in the field of basic services and thus the objective of providing telephone on demand by 1997 was not possible. Department of Telecommunications has submitted 9th Five Year Plan Proposals to the planning Commission for approval which envisages to provide telephone on demand during 9th Five Year Plan with Private Sector supplementing the efforts of the Government.

Agreement with Germany on MoU to Telecom

26. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Germany have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on telecom recently;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions involved therein;

(c) whether any agreement has been made in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASASD VARMA): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Government of India and Federal Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of the Federal Republic of Germany have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on 2nd September 1997 for co-operation in the field of Telecommunications.

The Memorandum of Understanding seeks to develop the ongoing technical and scientific co-operation to ensure the improvement and development of new communications technology. The specific areas of co-operation are (1) Regulation, (2) Standardisation, (3) Management of